

PTSAC

Sub-committee Recommendation: Capital Bike Sharing

Date: November 2, 2010

Subcommittee: Bicycle Access and Safety

Subcommittee Chairperson/s: Steve Friedman and Peter Moe

Other Participants and Technical Advisors: Alan Migdall

Subcommittee Charge: Support the PTSAC's mission through discussion and analysis of county-wide issues affecting bicyclists access and safety and to make recommendations on such issues.

Recommendations: Recommended that the PTSAC approve a request to the County Council and County Executive for Montgomery County to participate in the Capital Bikesharing (CaBi) program starting with the establishment of three stations at Bethesda Metro, Silver Spring Metro and Rockville Metro Stations.

Justification and Explanation: The Capital Bikesharing program currently has more than 1,000 bicycles available at 110 stations throughout Washington DC and Arlington, VA. More information on the program (known as CaBi) can be found at www.captialbikesharing.com. Begin participation with the program with establishment of three stations; Bethesda Metro, Silver Spring Metro and Rockville Metro in 2011 with future stations to be determined for creation within the next three years including a station at Medical Center Metro and the Shady Grove Metro as the new National Cancer Institute campus is developed. The new program has been determined a success by CaBi, DDOT, and City of Arlington officials. Montgomery County calls itself the Gateway to the Nations Capital and participation in this program will strengthen that claim. It has the potential to reduce traffic by providing an opportunity for commuters unable to use mixed alternative forms of transportation to close that gap (prohibition of bicycles on the metrorail during rush hour eliminates many who wish to use a metrorail/bike commuting combination), encourage and provide the means for people to move around urban shopping districts such as Bethesda, Silver Spring and Rockville by bicycle instead of by car for short trips, and to travel to and from Washington DC for exercise or recreation using existing routes.

Motion Approved by PTSAC: